

## How to Overcome the Crisis in Relations between the European Union and Turkey

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There has been a slowdown in the accession negotiations due to the blockage of negotiations chapters since 2006. EU affairs have lost their past lure in Turkey. And, Turkey decided to freeze its relations with the Presidency of the Council of the EU during the second half of 2012 and not to attend meetings chaired by the Cyprus EU Presidency. But despite these negative developments, the enhanced political dialogue between the EU and Turkey has continued. In this framework, the European Union has proposed a new positive agenda in order to enhance Turkey-EU relations and promote reforms in Turkey. The aim of this process is to keep the accession process of Turkey alive and bring a new momentum into Turkey-EU relations. In addition to, the new government in France gives signals it could reconsider its position with regard to the negotiation chapters that had blocked in 2007.

Therefore, at present, serious efforts are needed to revive the negotiation process with a new impetus.

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